GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5824
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2003
STORAGE CAPACITY IN FCI
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India is not utilising the space to the optimum level;

(b) the total storage capacity available in its godowns, owned, hired and covered as on date and how much of those are being utilised at any given point of time;

(c) whether a number of high level committees have recommended the closure of uneconomical godowns; and

(d) if so, the number of godowns closed till date?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SU MAHARIA)

(a): As per the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) norms the optimum of level of storage capacity utilization is 75%. As on 28-2-2003, the covered capacity utilization by FCI was around 68% due to increase in off-take.

(b): As on 28.2.2003, the covered storage capacity of FCI is as under:-

Figures in million tonnes

	Covered Capacity	Capacity Stocks	% Utilization
Owned	12.82	7.12	56%
Hired	14.02	11.20	80%
Total	26.84	18.32	68%

(c)&(d): Godowns are hired on the basis of requirement and availability of storage facilities with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) at a particular place. Periodic review is undertaken by the Regional Heads of the FCI to de-hire/close godowns which are uneconomical or not operationally required.